

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-15 (cancelled)

16. (New) A method of manufacturing a press felt, the method comprising forming a base fabric, whose at least one layer comprises at least a first planar component, which is formed from a plurality of longitudinal yarns that travel in the machine direction and from transverse yarns that travel in the cross machine direction, and the first component is provided with a first transverse joining edge area and a second transverse joining edge area, arranging the first transverse joining edge area and the second transverse joining edge area of the first component to overlap each other and forming a base fabric with the shape of a closed loop, attaching at least one batt fibre layer to the base fabric with the shape of a closed loop, and attaching the joining edge areas undetachably to each other before the attachment of the batt fibre layer, and the method further comprising forming at least one thinned joining edge area, where the density of transverse yarns is smaller than in the other portions of the first component, arranging permeability in the overlapping joining edge areas substantially correspond to that in the rest of the base fabric, and pressing the joining edge areas of the first component against each other during the attachment by a predetermined force so that the thickness of the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the thickness of the rest of the first component.

17. (New) A method according to claim 16, comprising removing transverse yarns from at least one joining edge area of the first component from a predetermined portion.

18. (New) A method according to claim 16, comprising providing, when the first component is formed, at least one joining edge area of the component with a smaller density of transverse yarns than the rest of the first component.

19. (New) A method according to claim 16, comprising forming a thinned first joining edge area and a second joining edge area in the first component.

20. (New) A method according to claim 16, comprising attaching the overlapping joining edge areas to each other by welding.

21. (New) A method according to claim 16, comprising providing at least the portion of the overlapping joining edge areas with an attachment area, where the joining edge areas are attached to each other undetachably, and making the boundary surface between the attachment area and the rest of the first component non-linear.

22. (New) A method according to claim 16, comprising providing at least the portion of the overlapping joining edge areas with an attachment area, where the joining edge areas are attached to each other undetachably, and providing the attachment area with several attachment points, which form a pattern that imitates the pattern of the base fabric surface.

23. (New) A method according to claim 16, comprising forming at least a first planar component, forming at least a second component with the shape of a closed loop, arranging the first component on top of the second component, and

connecting the joining edge areas of the first component with an overlapping joint.

24. (New) A press felt for a paper machine press section, the press felt comprising:

a base fabric, which comprises a plurality of longitudinal yarns that travel in the machine direction and a plurality of transverse yarns that travel in the cross machine direction and whose at least one layer comprises at least a first planar component, which includes a first transverse joining edge area and a second transverse joining edge area and where the joining edge areas have been connected to each other; and

at least one batt fibre layer,

and wherein

the first joining edge area and the second joining edge area of the first component have been arranged to overlap each other,

the joining edge areas have been attached to each other undetachably before the attachment of the batt fibre layer,

the density of transverse yarns is smaller at least in one joining edge area of the first component than in the rest of the first component,

the joining edge areas of the first component have been pressed against each other,

the thickness of the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the thickness of the rest of the first component, and

the permeability in the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the permeability of the rest of the base fabric.

25. (New) A press felt according to claim 24, wherein

transverse yarns have been removed from at least one joining edge area of the first component from a predetermined portion.

26. (New) A press felt according to claim 25, wherein
at least one joining edge area of the first component is provided with a smaller density of
transverse yarns than the rest of the first component during the manufacture.
27. (New) A press felt according to claim 25, wherein
the joining edge areas of the first component have been attached to each other by welding.
28. (New) A press felt according to claim 25, wherein
the width of the overlapping area of the joining edge areas of the first component is 5 to 20
mm in the machine direction.
29. (New) A base fabric for a press felt, comprising:
a plurality of longitudinal yarns that travel in the machine direction;
a plurality of transverse yarns that travel in the cross machine direction;
at least a first planar component in at least one layer of the base fabric, and the first
component comprises at least a first transverse joining edge area and a second transverse
joining edge area, and where the joining edge areas have been connected to each other, and
where
the first joining edge area and the second joining edge area of the first component have been
arranged to overlap each other;
the joining edge areas have been attached to each other undetachably,
and wherein
at least one joining edge area of the first component has a smaller density of transverse yarns
than the rest of the first component,
the joining edge areas of the first component have been pressed against each other,
the thickness of the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the thickness
of the rest of the first component, and

the permeability in the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the permeability of the rest of the base fabric.

30. (New) A base fabric according to claim 29, wherein

the joining edge areas of the first component are attached to each other by welding.